

24 (Group III) recites a method that creates such a compression dictionary that can be used with claim 1.

For these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the inventions described in the claims are not “independent and distinct” as defined in MPEP § 121 and that restriction between each of the Groups is improper.

Third, MPEP § 803 explicitly states that if search and examination of two or more inventions can be made without “serious burden,” the Examiner *must* examine each on the merits, even if the claims are directed to distinct or independent inventions. In this case, it appears that a search for the method and system would be conducted within the same search class or classes. Accordingly, it would not be overly burdensome on the Examiner to search for each of Applicant’s claims at the same time.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully traverses the restriction requirement and respectfully requests the Examiner to examine the claims of Groups I, II, and III together.

REMARKS

Applicant believes that all elected claims presently on file in the subject application are in condition for immediate allowance, and such action is respectfully requested. If it is felt for any reason that direct communication with Applicant's attorney would serve to advance prosecution of this case to finality, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned Robert C. Sismilich, Esq. at the below-listed telephone number.



**AUTHORIZATION TO PAY AND PETITION
FOR THE ACCEPTANCE OF ANY NECESSARY FEES**

If any charges or fees must be paid in connection with the foregoing communication (including but not limited to the payment of an extension fee or issue fees), or if any overpayment is to be refunded in connection with the above-identified application, any such charges or fees, or any such overpayment, may be respectively paid out of, or into, the Deposit Account No. 08-2025 of Hewlett-Packard Company. If any such payment also requires Petition or Extension Request, please construe this authorization to pay as the necessary Petition or Request which is required to accompany the payment.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 3/13/06

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